Numb. 43.

THE OBSERVATOR.

On Victualing the Fleet. On the Elector of Bavaria's *Treachery in seizing of* Ulm. *Of the Affairs of* Poland *and* Sweden. *On the Popes Message to the Cardinal* Primate. *On two Monks being drowned in the River* Tyber.

From Wednesday September the 16th, to Saturday September the 19th, 1702.

Country-m. THE last time we met, you were saying that abundance of Men Died in *Russels Squadron*, by drinking of *Beverage*, made of sowre Wine; now see how much Learned Men differ from one another. Yesterday at *London* I heard one (who they said was a Doctor of Physick) say, That the sowre Wine the Sailors Drank at that time, was the occasion that they did not all Die, and nothing was so healthfull as sowre *Beverage*.

Obs. I fancy you fell into Company with Doctor *Colbatch*, the *Vinegar* Doctor of *London*, who sets up *Verjuc*, or any sowre thing in defiance of all the *Drugs* and *Simples* in the Universe that are not *Acids*; he'll Purge, *Sweat*, Stop *Blood*, and *Vomiting*, with *Vinegar*, which in all Points out-does his Learned Brothers *Aqua Tetrachymagogon*. I remember the Doctor in his Learned *Discourse on the Doctrine of* Acids, asserts, That the sowre Wine us'd in *Russels* Squadron, preserv'd the Sailors Health; to confirm which, he has inserted a Certificate under the Hand of Doctor *Oliver*, Physitian General, Surgeon-General, or something General to the Fleet, so that you have the word of two Doctors for it.

Country-m. I had rather take the word of both the Doctors, than the Physick of either. I love to hear of your Fighting Stories in *Flanders*, *Italy*, and *Spain*; but I don't care to have a Battle of *Acids* and *Alkali*'s in my own Guts, and I'd take the Opinion of one single Sailor in his Case, before the Opinion of both these Doctors.

Obs. The Sailors felt the effect of *Acids* with a Witness; many thousands of the Sons of the *Sea*, who are the only safety of their Country, have been Sacrificed to the *Avarice* of those, who have got vast Estates out of the Sailors Provisions. Our Parliament always allowed sufficient Provision for our Fleets, and without doubt the Sailors would have had good Wine at that time, had it not been for the Advantage of the Buyers to supply them with what was sager and prick'd. It is high-time to take a better Care of our *Naval Affairs:* But this must not be done by suffering Men to preside in the Management, who have just thrown away their Stamps, and have Learn'd to write their Names. If none must be employ'd but *High-Church*, and *Damning* and *Sinking* be a sign of a *High-Churchman*, Wo be to the poor Sailors of *England* under such a Management! When Men who are Naturally Ignorant, and unexperienc'd in their Posts, shall turn Men out of Offices of twenty Years standing in the Navy, meerly because they Voted at *Guild-Hall* for the four Old Members, or have gone by the Direction of their Consciences to a Conventicle; this looks as if some would rather have their Country Ruined by *High-Flyers* and *Debauchees*, than saved by Men of *Moderation* and *Sobriety*.

Country-m. I protest, Mr. *Observator*, I can't tell the meaning of this. There's neither Policy, nor Honesty, in such a management. My *Wheelwright* is a *High-Flyer*, and yet I'll rather employ him to make me a Cart or Waggon, than you who are of the same Opinion with my self, for no other Reason but that he is a good Workman, and you understand nothing of the Business; & now it comes into my head how our Funds have always become Deficient, and we poor Country-men are continually Plagu'd with additional Taxes, to make good Deficiences; I find it is by employing of Men in Eminent Stations, who know nothing of their Posts. Now, Sir, for one Touch at Foreign News: What kind of Fellow is this *Elector of Bavaria*, that has serv'd the Town of *Ulm* such a Dog-trick as the Tyrant of *Poland* serv'd *Riga*.

Obs. The Elector of *Bavaria* is Brother to that of *Cologne*, and by their Honest practices you may conclude them to be one Mans Children: This *Bavaria* was a Rotten Stake in the Confederate Hedge the last War, and all along Betrayed King *William*, tho' he was in Confederacy with him; and therefore, I'm very glad he has declared himself for the *French*, for now he cannot do so much Mischief by being a publick Enemy, as he might have done otherwise by his underhand Practices. He's a true Allye of *Lewis* XIV; like him, he thinks nothing dishonourable or unjust, that tends to his Advantage, and can Sacrifice his Honour and Reputation to his Interest.

Ulm, which he has Invested, is a great, rich, and populous City of *Germany*, in the Circle of *Suabia*, situated on the *Danube* and *Iler*, about 40 Miles from *Ausburg*. The *French* King is already in possession of a Town of that name, in the Circle of the Lower *Rhine*, which he Stole from the Duke of *Zweybruck*, and *Lewis* thinks he has a just claim to all the Towns of the same Name with any in his Possession, for the least Notion of *Right* will justifie *Lewis* in his *Piracies* upon his Neighbours. This Elector has hitherto Maintain'd a sort of *Neutrality*, expecting that the Confederates would bid high for his *Auxilary-Help*; but they knew too well his former *Treachery*, and could now expect nothing from him, but that he should do them no Mischief; so that he was as it were Constrain- to make the best of his Market with the *French*, who were not very forward to Embrace him till they stood in need of him. *Landau* was closely Besieged by the Confederate

federate Troops and the *French* notwithſtanding their boaſts, durſt not attempt its Relief; this was a place too Important to be loſt, and therefore they got *Bavaria* to make a ſudden Declaration for the *French*, by inveſting *Ulm* with his Troops, thereby thinking to divert the Confederates from a vigorous proſecution of the Siege of *Landau*, but the Rupture was too late, the beſieged were juſt upon a Capitulation and could hold out no longer; yet I am apt to believe this was one great Reaſon why the King of the *Romans* granted that Gariſon ſuch advantagious Terms.

Country-m. All the harm I wiſh the Elector of *Bavaria* is the ſame Fate with his Brother the Elector of *Cologn*; methinks I would have abundance of theſe Hereditary Princes abdicate, that we may have Principalities and Dukedoms enough at the end of the War wherewith to reward our brave Generals for their good Services in the Common Cauſe of *Europe*. I would not have one of them reſtored to their Dominons.

Obſ. The Elector of *Cologn* was a more formidable Enemy than his Brother *Bavaria*, he was both Elector and Biſhop; & thus Qualify'd, I thought him a match for the Devil; and yet you ſee he could not exorciſe the Confederates; he may now ſerve under his Brother for maintenance, till ſuch time as he has taken *Ulm*, and then his Brother may give him that Town (if the *French* King pleaſes) In lieu of *Keyſerſwart*.

Country-m. I remember when we firſt came acquainted, you were vindicating the King of *Sweden* from being in a *French* Intereſt contrary to the common Opinion of the Town; I find now you were in the Right, for that Prince ſeems enclined to a Peace amidſt all his Succeſſes in War. I wiſh the Affairs in the North were adjuſted, that thoſe Troops might be employ'd in the Common Cauſe.

Obſ. Things that way look with a very good Aſpect, I ſhould much rejoice to hear of a concluſion of thoſe Differences which would tend ſo much to the Tranquility of all *Europe*; the only Impediment ſeems to be the King of *Swedens* Article on behalf of the Proteſtants, which meets with vehement Oppoſition from the Popiſh Clergy, who had rather ſee their Country ruin'd, than have Freemen enjoy the Liberty of their own Reaſon; miſerable are thoſe Countries and Free-States wherein the Clergy have a power of doing miſchief, and are ſuffered to lead Mankind to their own Deſtruction. How many Countries and Free-States have been ruined by the Ambition of the Prieſt-hood? Is not the Calamity of all *Europe*, the Blood and Slaughter of many thouſands of Men at this day, owing to the Villany of one *Spaniſh* Prieſt? Who but the *High-Flyers* of the *Engliſh* Clergy brought on us in *England* ſuch Diſtractions 15 years ago, which engaged us in a War to the loſs of ſo many thouſands of our Natives? And is not *Sacheverel* at this time beating the ſame march? *Poland* is an Inſtance that a virulent Ambitious Prieſthood ought never to be encouraged in humane Societies, ſince they are at this time the only Bar to the Northern Tranquility.

And much reaſon have we to admire the Wiſdom of the Almighty in making uſe of that infamous Wretch, the Czar of *Muſcovy*, to be a means of forwarding the Peace in the North for his Depredations and Cruelties in *Livonia* has brought the King of *Sweden* to a Temper which perhaps he had not fallen into, if this Beaſtly Tyrant had not again invaded the Territories of *Sweden*. Thus great Princes often are Inſtruments of doing that Work they least thought of, and tho' they often act according to the Dictates of *Corrupt Nature*, the glorious Effects of what they do lie concealed in the Womb of Providence imperceptible to humane Eyes. Who could have thought that *Lewis* the 14th's making *Anjou* King of *Spain*, ſhould have tended ſo much to the weakning of the *French* Empire, that in one Campaign the glory of *France* is quite eclipſed, and ſeems to ſtruggle under an Irretrieveable Fate?

If the Devil be not in the Dice of War in the North, I am ſure his Eldeſt Son the *He*-Whore of *Babylon*, his holy *Devilſhip* the *Pope*, is ſufficiently in that Game. For he has ſent *to require the Cardinal Primate and the Senate of* Poland to *defend the* Roman Catholick *Faith againſt the King of* Sweden.

Country-m. Maſter *Obſervator*, what is the reaſon that the Confederates carry on a War againſt the *French* King and the little Imps of *Rome*, and don't bend all their Forces againſt that old Son of a Whore the Pope? I am for catching the old One. He's St. *Peters* Succeſſor, but if I had him in St. *Peters* Net, I would ſo Souce the old Dog in my Horſe-pond, that all the Holy Water in *Europe* ſhould not ſweet-ſcent him again; an old Varlet that is the chief Wizzard of *Europe*, and bewitches thouſands of Blockheads into his Maze of Idolatry. Would any one think that the Emperour and the reſt of the Allies ſhould patiently bear the Affronts of that old Villain, who has baniſhed two Monks for talking too freely of the Battle of *Luzara*, and has order'd two more to be drowned in the *Tyber*, having each a Paper on their Breaſts with theſe words; *This ſhall be the Fate of all thoſe that dare rail againſt* France or Spain; and Maſter *Obſervator* there are enough come over lately from *Holland* to do your Buſineſs; I expect to hear in a ſhort time that you are murder'd with a Paper on your Breaſt, *This ſhall be the Fate of all ſuch as write againſt High Church and Popery.*

Obſ. My Life is in Gods hands, and not in theirs; I can truſt God with my Life, when I will not truſt them with my *Liberty* and *Property*; nor do I fear the beſt Ruffian of 'em all upon equal Terms, I am more concerned for our Gracious Queen than for my ſelf, there are cut-throats enough come over ſince Her Majeſties happy Acceſſion to the Crown, to murder the beſt Queen in *Europe*; and they are ſuch as are Enemies not only to our Realm, but to Her Majeſty, out of Principle; pray God deliver Her Majeſty from the effects of their Malice, we have notice enough of their Deſigns in the Paper Poſted up in the City of *Norwich*, the Authors of which I hope will be diſcovered and Puniſhed by the Government.

Advertiſement.

A true Account of the Conſtitution, Principles and Practice of the *Engliſh Flying Squadron*.

The Heroe in Miniature: Or an Hiſtorick Poem on Prince *Eugene*. *London*, Printed for *J. How*, in the *Ram-head-Inn-Yard*, in *Fanchchurch-ſtreet*, and Sold by *B. Bragg* at the *Elew-Ball* in *Avemary-Lane* next *Ludgate-ſtreet*.

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